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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Gerhardus HAAK et al.

Group Art Unit: 1743

Application No.: 09/914,794

Examiner: S. SIEFKE

Filed: September 5, 2001

Docket No.: 110510

For: SOLID PHASE EXTRACTION INSTRUMENT AND METHOD FOR SOLID PHASE EXTRACTION

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the January 12, 2006 Office Action, reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

Claims 1 and 3-7 are pending in this application.

I. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1 and 3-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,512,168 ("Fetner") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,825,046 ("Forsyth"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As admitted by the Patent Office, Fetner alone does not teach or suggest raising or lowering the temperature of the cartridge by flowing a heated or cooled sample through the cartridge as recited in claim 1. The Patent Office thus introduced Forsyth as allegedly teaching this feature.